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PATENT

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (previously presented) A system for treating plants containing biopolymers, comprising:  
one or more <sup>plant-derived, animal</sup> repellant chemicals; and  
one or more polymers, the polymers forming a matrix with the biopolymers and the repellant chemicals to permit sustained release of the chemicals, and  
a silver ion forming an ionic complex with the matrix.
2. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the one or more repellant chemicals comprise at least one of synthetic organic, inorganic, biochemical, pharmacological and toxicological substances.
3. (currently amended) The system of claim 2, wherein at least one of the one or more repellant chemicals is derived from marine life, insect life, mammalian tissues, or cellular life forms, ~~or artificial and natural life forms.~~
4. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the one or more repellant chemicals comprise at least one plant-derived material.
5. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the one or more repellant chemicals are in the form of a powder and the one or more polymers ~~is~~ are in the form of a liquid.
6. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the one or more polymers comprise naturally occurring hydrophilic polymers.
7. (previously presented) The system of claim 6, wherein the hydrophilic polymers comprise at least one of collagen, gelatin, dextrin and polypeptides.
- 8-9. (canceled)

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49. (previously presented) A system for treating plants containing biopolymers, comprising:  
one or more <sup>animal</sup> repellant chemicals; and  
one or more polymers, the polymers forming a matrix with the biopolymers and the repellant chemicals to permit sustained release of the repellant chemicals, wherein the one or more polymers comprise a pluronic polymer.
50. (previously presented) The system of claim 49, wherein the one or more repellant chemicals comprise at least one of synthetic organic, inorganic, biochemical, pharmacological and toxicological substances.
51. (currently amended) The system of claim 50, wherein at least one of the one or more repellant chemicals is derived from at least one of marine life, insect life, mammalian tissues, or cellular life forms, ~~or artificial and natural life forms.~~
52. (previously presented) The system of claim 49, wherein the one or more repellant chemicals comprise at least one plant-derived material.
53. (previously presented) The system of claim 49, wherein the one or more repellant chemicals are in the form of a powder and the one or more polymers are in the form of a liquid.
54. (currently amended) The system of claim 49, wherein the one or more polymers further comprise at least one naturally occurring hydrophilic polymer.
55. (previously presented) The system of claim 54, wherein the hydrophilic polymer is collagen, gelatin, dextrin or a polypeptide.
56. (previously presented) The system of claim 49, wherein at least one of the one or more polymers <sup>further comprise</sup> ~~comprises~~ a charged ion, said charged ion forming an ionic complex with the one or more repellant chemical.

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